PART FOUR  
“The Alchemist” by Paulo Coelho  
1/2/12

Part four of my book picks up with the boy appearing at the Alchemist’s tent to journey to find life in the dessert. The boy succeeds in finding life; the life he found was in a snake hole. Once life was found the Alchemist informed the boy that he was now worthy of finding his treasure. The journey to find the treasure would require many days in the dessert and the boy was not sure if he wanted to leave Fatima. The Alchemist told the boy to rethink that thought wisely because he could vision his future, which he saw was full of regret if he decided not succeed his personal legend. With the vision in mind the boy thought wisely and in the end decided to complete his personal legend. Before venturing out for the long journey, he went to Fatima’s tent to say goodbye. He assured her that he would be back for her, and she agreed to wait for him. The very next day the Alchemist and the boy got on their horses and set out for the boy’s personal legend. Due to the war, the two had to be very careful when stopping to sleep and set of camp. They traveled for days, and during the time of their travel the Alchemist taught the boy the important lesson of following his heart. The boy then began to listen to his heart more which helped him in completing his personal legend. Shortly after, the two come face to face with danger. They are captured by men fighting in the war and unless the boy can create wind they will be captured for life. The boy is given just three days to create wind and right away he is extremely nervous. The three days pass and on the third day the boy climbs to the top of a cliff and begins conversing with the dessert. He asks the dessert to help him but the desserts reply is that he must talk to the wind. As the wind and the boy begin talking, the boy tricks the wind in order to make him mad. By doing this the wind starts a horrible wind storm that the tribesmen have never seen before. The boy succeeds at creating the wind setting the Alchemist and the boy free, but most importantly the boy learns the true meaning of “treasure.”

This has been my favorite section of all of the five. I loved the large amounts of adventure and suspense throughout the section. I also liked the growth of the boys knowledge and the connection between him and the Alchemist. I especially liked when the Alchemist says to the boy, “You must understand that love never keeps a man from pursuing his Personal Legend. If he abandons that pursuit, it’s because it wasn’t true love… the love that speaks the Language of the World.” What he said really hit home with me because it applied to a situation in my life. Having a boyfriend going in to college is a hard thing, but never once did I allow my relationship determine what school I would go to to play volleyball. If he really loves me and we truly have a good relationship it won’t matter where I would have went or where he goes. However, if the relationship does not work out it will be just as the Alchemist said, not true love. I also liked this section because it contained so many lessons such as the one I just mentioned. Another lesson I really enjoyed hearing was listening to your heart. I agree with the Alchemist in following and trusting your heart, however you need to be careful and practical when making final decisions. I say this because if the boy would have followed his heart and ignored the Alchemist’s vision he would have stayed behind with Fatima and never would have sought out his personal legend.

The Boy in this section expresses the inherit characteristic of learning from our elders. Without the Alchemist and the King, the boy would have never set out to find his personal legend and most importantly he wouldn’t have learned the important lessons from the both of them. The alchemist has taught the boy many life lessons that have mad the boy more mature and respectable. Learning about the focus of getting things done on time and completed will make the boys future more successful and enjoyable. Everyone in the world learns things from their elders and because of this the lessons stay with us through our entire lives, just as the boy’s will. The Alchemist is the boys mentor and good friend, he has been very lucky to have found him because if he hadn’t I believe the boy would have gotten lost in love and never completed his personal legend.